

sacrifice or the sacrifices of her brothers and sisters in arms.

Importantly, she will always be remembered for her compassion and grace. Most Americans have seen this iconic photo of Sergeant Gee cradling and comforting an Afghan child at the Kabul Airport. This image is just a snapshot of her outstanding commitment to others as her loved ones and fellow marines remember Nicole as an outstanding person who always had a positive attitude and never failed to put a smile on everyone's face.

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Her dear friend, Marine Sergeant Mallory Harrison, recently took to social media to say: "I find peace knowing that she left this world doing what she loved. She was a marine's marine. She cared about people. She loved fiercely, and she was a light in this very dark world."

One infantry marine who served in Afghanistan with her, Rowdy Woods, wrote: "Nicole loved what she was doing out here and she knew the risks. She did it anyway because she is and forever will be one badass marine."

For 2 weeks, residents and visitors in Onslow County have been paying their respects to Sergeant Gee and her 12 fallen comrades outside of Camp Lejeune.

Thank you to all the military families and other community members for adorning the gates of Camp Lejeune with flowers, meaningful signs, and combat boots.

The outpouring of love and support that I have seen in the Third District is a true testament to the epic legacy that Sergeant Gee and all of our other lost U.S. servicemen now leave behind.

It is an honor to represent the marines in my district. They represent the very best amongst our steadfast patriots, risking everything to preserve life and liberty for our great Nation. Their commitment is unmatched.

I, again, extend my sincere condolences to Sergeant Gee's family, her friends, her fellow marines, and others who were touched by her wonderful life and valiant service. There is a true void in her absence. Sergeant Gee will be missed, but her sacrifice will never be forgotten.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise, as a liberated Democrat, unbought, unbossed, in the spirit of Shirley Chisholm. And I rise, not as a part-time freedom fighter, but a full-time freedom fighter. I don't do it just because it is convenient, just because it is the issue du jour. I do it because I was born into the struggle. I didn't enlist at a later time in life.

As a full-time freedom fighter, I rise today, Madam Speaker, because Black lives still matter; and they matter,

Madam Speaker, wherever they happen to be. They matter, not because they happen to be in the United States. They matter if they are in Haiti. Black lives matter.

I have been to Haiti. I have seen the conditions there. We need to do something about our friends in this hemisphere. And if they matter in Haiti to me, surely they matter at the southern border.

Black lives matter wherever they are. Black lives matter regardless as to who is in power. They still matter. Changes in the power structure don't change the circumstances. And as long as the circumstances exist, Black lives still matter.

And as a 74-year old Black man, when I see men in uniforms, acting under the color of law, on horses, using the reins of the horses to do what was comparable to that which was done when you were trying to capture a runaway slave, or you were herding slaves in a given direction, Black lives matter. When I see that, I find it more than appalling. It is sinful. It is something that we cannot tolerate.

And you just can't say, well, the circumstances are so bad that we have to use horses now to run down Black people. Black lives matter. That kind of behavior is intolerable. And when I see it, I am going to speak up and speak out.

So here is what I am going to do about it. I am not just going to say Black lives matter. I want justice for the Haitians.

I remember when we had a policy to help the Cubans come into this country. By the way, I never opposed it. But the policy was wet foot, dry foot. You get one foot on dry land, your other foot could be in the Gulf of Mexico, and you had the right to take that other foot out of water, go on into Miami and start a life in this country and eventually become a citizen. I never opposed that policy. We didn't have a similar policy for the Haitians.

And I remember when Castro opened up the jails and let the criminals come down to Florida, we didn't send them back.

Black lives matter. It is not just a slogan for me. So here is what I am going to do. I am going to draft a resolution condemning what we saw.

We need to know whether Black lives matter to this Congress. We need to know. I am going to draft a resolution.

And for those who don't understand the rules, these kinds of resolutions are not privileged, so I can't just bring it to the floor and demand a vote. So I am going to ask that it be allowed to come to the floor because Black lives matter.

And we need to vote. We need to know where people stand on the great issues of our time. This is an issue of all time; it is not just today. We need to know where people stand. We need to vote.

There are a lot of things that we need to vote on. We need to know where peo-

ple stand when it comes to Black lives, and all lives, I might add, but this is the Haitian issue that we are dealing with now.

I have fought for the other persons who have come to the border. I spoke up when little girls were being ripped away from their mothers' arms, so I am not new to this fight.

And I want to assure you that I am going to bring the resolution to my colleagues, and we will find out whether Black lives matter to this Congress.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF RUTHIE KINDNESS' DISAPPEARANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NEWHOUSE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to a citizen of the great State of Washington, to share her story and to, once again, urge my colleagues to make it a priority for this Congress to end the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women.

Ruthie Kindness, a native woman of the city of Parkland, turned 31 just last month. Unfortunately, for her family and her loved ones, they spent her birthday just as they have over the last 10 years, without Ruthie, with no idea where she is, or even if she is alive.

Ruthie disappeared on February 7, 2011. For over a decade, her family has gone without answers, and little progress has been made in the investigation.

Ruthie's story is unacceptably commonplace for our tribal communities. She is one of nearly 6,000 women, Madam Speaker, that we know of who have been a victim of this crisis.

Native American and Alaska Native women face a murder rate that is 10 times higher than the national average. Many of their cases go unresolved for years or even decades, as with Ruthie's case.

We made critically important strides in addressing the crisis when President Trump signed Savannah's Act and the Not Invisible Act into law just last year. But Ruthie and the thousands of women whose cases remain unresolved underscore that our work here is not yet finished.

The life of Ruthie Kindness matters. Her family's grief matters. The hole left in her community by her disappearance, that matters. Finding answers for them, delivering justice for Ruthie, and ending this threat for indigenous women once and for all, that matters.

I call on each and every Member of this body to join me in renewing our commitment to our Native communities, and to delivering a lasting solution to protect these women from the disproportionate rates of violence that they suffer.

If anyone has any information about Ruthie's disappearance, please call the